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S. RES. 124

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the Olympic Summer Games in the year 2000 should not be held in Beijing or elsewhere in the People's Republic of China.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 22, 1993

Mr. BRADLEY (for himself and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the Olympic Summer Games in the year 2000 should not be held in Beijing or elsewhere in the People's Republic of China.

Whereas opponents of the human rights policies of the People's Republic of China should use a variety of vehicles, including international organizations, international regimes, and international events to express concern about China's human rights practices;

Whereas the International Olympic Committee is currently considering possible venues for the Olympic Summer Games in the year 2000, and the governments of the city of Beijing and of the People's Republic of China have submitted a proposal to the International Olympic Committee that such Olympic Games be held in Beijing;

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Whereas the State Department publication entitled “Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1992” states that—

(1) the government of China’s “human rights practices have remained repressive, falling far short of internationally accepted norms”;

(2) “torture and degrading treatment of detained and imprisoned persons” persists today in China;

(3) “conditions in all types of Chinese penal institutions are harsh and frequently degrading”; and

(4) the government of China “still has not satisfactorily accounted for the thousands of persons throughout the country who were arrested or held in ‘detention during the investigation’ or ‘administrative detention’ status for activities related to the 1989 pro-democracy demonstrations”;

Whereas the government of China has consistently failed to respect civil liberties and, according to the State Department’s “Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1992”, freedom of speech and self-expression remain “severely restricted” in China;

Whereas the government of China has failed to accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and has questioned the universality of human rights;

Whereas the government of China uses torture, forced labor, and physical isolation to punish political prisoners;

Whereas Chinese authorities have prohibited the establishment of independent Chinese organizations that monitor or comment on human rights conditions in China, refused requests by international human rights delegations to meet with political prisoners and former detainees, and

expelled foreign visitors indicating an interest in monitoring human rights conditions in China;

Whereas the government of China has engaged in transfers of population in order to marginalize the Tibetans inside Tibet and is engaged in the systematic suppression of the Tibetan people, their culture, and their religion;

Whereas, in recent years, the government of China has imposed tighter control over religious practices and has engaged in greater repression of religion in China;

Whereas, due to the policies of the government of China, Chinese workers are denied the right to organize independent trade unions and to bargain collectively, and products manufactured in China through the use of forced labor have been exported to the United States;

Whereas the government of China is engaged in ongoing pervasive human rights abuses of women and children, including the use of forced abortions and involuntary sterilizations, in its enforcement of China's one child per couple policy;

Whereas, in the spring of 1989, then mayor of Beijing, Chen Xitong, called for a crackdown on the pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square and, on May 20, 1989, signed a martial law decree authorizing the entry of armed troops into the city;

Whereas Chen Xitong, currently the Chairman of the Beijing 2000 Olympic Bid Committee, has assured the International Olympic Committee in China's formal application that "neither now, nor in the future, will there emerge in Beijing organizations opposing Beijing's bid" to host the Olympic Games, thus boasting of the Chinese regime's determination to crush dissent; and

Whereas holding the Olympic Games in countries such as the People's Republic of China shifts the focus of the Olympic Games away from the high ideals behind the Olympic tradition and is counterproductive to the Olympic movement: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) strongly opposes the holding of the Olympic
3 Summer Games in the year 2000 in the city of
4 Beijing or elsewhere in the People's Republic of
5 China and urges the International Olympic Commit-
6 tee to find a more suitable venue for the Games;

7 (2) urges the United States representative to
8 the International Olympic Committee to vote against
9 holding the Olympic Summer Games in the year
10 2000 in the city of Beijing or elsewhere in the Peo-
11 ple's Republic of China; and

12 (3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to trans-
13 mit a copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the
14 International Olympic Committee and to the United
15 States representative to the International Olympic
16 Committee with the request that it be circulated to
17 all members of the Committee.

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